

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-17 (canceled)

18. (currently presented) A composition comprising a mixture of ~~sulfonated~~ 3,4-dihydroxybutane-1-sulfonate, ~~sulfonated~~ 1,4-dihydroxybutane-2-sulfonate, and sulfonated oligomers of 3,4-epoxy-1-butene.

19. (currently amended) A polyester which comprises residues of a monomer comprising a mixture of ~~sulfonated~~ 3,4-dihydroxybutane-1-sulfonate, ~~sulfonated~~ 1,4-dihydroxybutane-2-sulfonate, and sulfonated oligomers of 3,4-epoxy-1-butene.

Claims 20-22 (canceled)